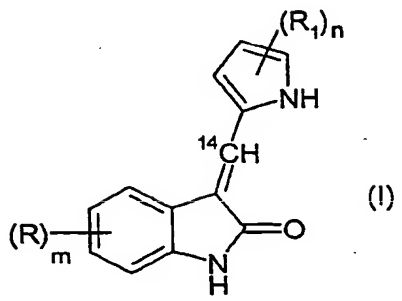
CLAIMS

1. A compound of general formula (I) below:



(I)

wherein
each R group is, at one or more of the positions 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the indolinone ring and independently from each other, a straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl or alkoxy group or a halogen atom;
each R_1 group is, the same or different and at one or more of the positions of the pyrrole ring, a C_1-C_4 alkyl or a group of general formula $-(CH_2)_pCO_2R'$, $-(CH_2)_p-CONR'R''$ or $-CONH-(CH_2)_p-CONR'R''$ wherein p is 0, 1, 2 or 3, the alkylene $-(CH_2)_p-$ chain is optionally substituted by hydroxy, and R' and R" are selected, each independently, from hydrogen or straight or branched C_1-C_4 alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, R' and R" may form a pyrrolidino, piperidino or morpholino group;
m is 0 or an integer from 1 to 4;
n is 0 or an integer from 1 to 3;
or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

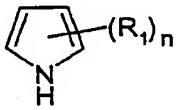
2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein the pyrrole ring is substituted by one or more of the groups selected from methyl, carboxy, ethoxycarbonyl, carboxyethyl, N,N-diethyl-aminocarbonyl, N-[(2-diethylamino)ethyl]carboxamide or N-[2-hydroxy-3-morpholin-4-ylpropyl]carboxamide.

3. A compound according to claim 1 which is 3-[(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)[^{14}C]methylene-1,3-dihydro-2H-indol-2-one; 5-[(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-3H-indol-3-

ylidene) [^{14}C]methyl]-2,4-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-3-propionic acid; N-[(2-diethylamino)ethyl]-5-[(5-fluoro-1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-3H-indol-3-ylidene) [^{14}C]methyl]-2,4-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxamide; 3-{5-methyl-2-[(Z)-(2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-3H-indol-3-ylidene) [^{14}C]methyl]-1H-pyrrol-3-yl}propanoic acid; and 5-[(Z)-(5-fluoro-2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-3H-indol-3-ylidene) [^{14}C]methyl]-N-[(2S)-2-hydroxy-3-morpholin-4-ylpropyl]-2,4-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxamide.

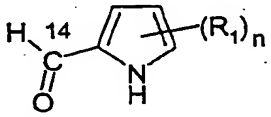
4. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 which process comprises:

a) reacting dimethyl-[^{14}C]formamide with a suitable pyrrole derivative of formula (II), in the presence of diphosphoryl-chloride



(II)

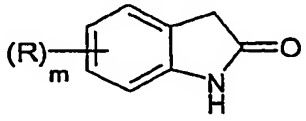
wherein R_1 and n are as defined in claim 1, so as to obtain a compound of formula (III)



(III)

and optionally converting a compound of formula (III) into another compound of formula (III);

b) reacting under basic conditions the compound of formula (III) with an oxindole derivative of formula (IV)

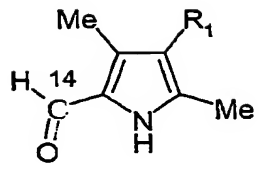


(IV)

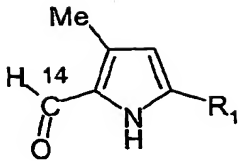
wherein R and m are as defined in claim 1, so as to obtain a compound of formula (I) and, optionally converting it into another compound of formula (I) and/or into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. A process according to claim 4 wherein, in step (b), basic conditions are obtained by means of pyrrolidine.

6. A compound of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb) below

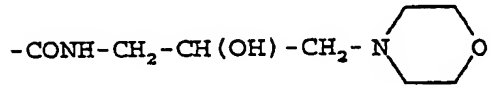


(IIIa)



(IIIb)

wherein R_1 is a hydrogen atom or a group selected from $-(CH_2)_2-CO_2H$, $-CO_2H$, $-CO_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CONH-(CH_2)_2-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$ and



7. Use of a compound of formula (I), as defined in claim 1, for absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion (ADME) studies.